

DAVIS ON TRIAL AT PETERSBURG

He Pleads Not Guilty to Charge
of Making False State-
ment.

BISHOP CASE CONTINUED

Several Witnesses Are Examined
During First Day of
Hearing.

Times-Dispatch Bureau,
5 Hollingsworth Street,
Petersburg, Va., March 20.

The trial of Charles H. Davis on an indictment alleging the making of a false report to the condition of the Appomattox Trust Company, of which he was the president, in August, 1908, was begun in the Hastings Court this morning. Mr. Davis was jointly indicted with Carter B. Bishop, the cashier, in this case, but elected to be tried separately. When arraigned he pleaded not guilty, and the court proceeded to empanel a jury.

The indictment being a joint one, the veniremen as they were called were examined separately and fully as to whether they had formed or expressed opinion as to the guilt or innocence of either Bishop or Davis, whether they were prejudiced against either and whether they could give a fair and impartial trial. There was but little trouble in getting a jury satisfied to both sides. The jury as empaneled is as follows: John J. Coleman, J. L. Campbell, J. A. Baxter, J. Spaldon Bryant, E. A. Johnson, Joseph W. Smith, Walker L. Scott, D. E. Alley, J. Harry Bailey, D. M. Hill, John B. Hubbard, Harry N. James.

In his examination of the veniremen the judge fully explained the nature of the charge contained in the indictment.

The jury being sworn all witnesses were excluded from the courtroom. The opening statement on behalf of the defense was made by Colonel James Mann, of Norfolk, who briefly and concisely told the jury what the defense expected to prove. In substance that no false statement was made, that it was simply a case of bookkeeping, that there had been no criminal intent in the signing of the report, and that it was attested by Mr. Davis as president without examination.

Commonwealth's Attorney Mann made no opening statement. The clerk explained to the jury that the penalty imposed by the law on conviction on the charge of making a false report is not less than \$100 nor more than \$500, fine, and imprisonment of not less than one nor more than ten years.

The cases against Carter B. Bishop were continued to the March term of the court, and Mr. Bishop renewed his bond.

The Evidence.
The first witness introduced by the Commonwealth was W. A. Worth, former secretary and teller of the Appomattox Trust Company. His evidence mainly related to the organization of the company, its charter and by-laws, and to reading of extracts from the records of the meetings of the board of directors, showing the election of officers and their duties, etc. This evidence was preliminary.

The second witness was R. T. Wilson, clerk of the State Corporation Commission, who was on the stand but a little while before the court, at 2 o'clock, took recess for dinner. Mr. Wilson explained the manner of making calls upon the banks for statements of their condition as of certain dates, and provided blank copies of the call sent out to the banks, including that sent to the Appomattox Trust Company for a statement as of July 15, 1908, which statement the Commonwealth's attorney alleged was false.

The defense offered several objections to this line of evidence and noted exceptions. The Commonwealth's attorney sought to introduce as evidence the form of the call sent out by the controller of the currency for a statement of the national banks at the close of business on July 15, 1908, but the defense objected on the ground that the call was not properly certified. The objection was sustained and the paper was excluded until proper certification of it can be made.

Counsel for the defense are John L. Lee, of Lynchburg; Colonel James Mann, of Norfolk; and Cassius D. Drewry, of this city.

Commonwealth's Attorney R. H. Mann is conducting the prosecution alone.

A number of exceptions noted by the defense indicates that there is a conviction, the case will be carried to the Supreme Court. The probability is that the trial will consume several days.

Afternoon Session.

R. T. Wilson, clerk of the State Corporation Commission, resumed the

The Royal Pianos

Are Found Here.
The Steinway is among them.
Pianos to grace a cottage or adorn a mansion.
Catalogs free upon request.

Walter D. Moses & Co.
103 E. Broad Street.
Oldest Music House in Virginia and North Carolina.

witness stand at the afternoon session. He testified that the call for a statement of the condition of the banks as of July 15, 1908, had been sent to the Appomattox Trust Company, and that the commission had received the company's report. This report was produced by the witness, but was objected to by the defense on the ground that it had not been properly certified.

The Commonwealth's attorney, on this objection, introduced Cassius D. Drewry, of the Virginia National Bank, to recognize the form of the call sent out by the controller of the currency as of July 15, 1908, and the defense objected to Mr. Long's testimony on this line. The court overruled the objection and the defense excepted. The witness then produced the call as a copy of the one that had been sent out by the controller to the banks on that date. His book had received many like calls. The records of the Virginia National Bank show that a statement of the condition of that bank was made as of July 15, 1908, in response to the controller's call of that date. Mr. Long's statement was admitted and was accepted.

A certified copy of the Appomattox Bank's report was submitted in evidence. Mr. Wilson recalled, stated that he had in hand letters showing correspondence with officers of the Appomattox Trust Company relative to the bank's affairs, which were received and read to the jury. The letters from the Corporation Commission Department asked for information as to overdrafts in the bank, responses thereto, and a list of the overdrafts. An accounting sent by the commission was not allowed to see the books of the bank. Another expert was sent over to examine the books, but this examination was called off.

The Commonwealth's attorney sought to introduce a statement made by the bank to the commission in 1907, by which he expects to prove guilty knowledge. The defense objected to this report on the ground that it was not attested or signed by Mr. Davis, and that it has no bearing on Mr. Davis' case. This report was signed by Cassius D. Bishop. The objection, after argument, was sustained by the court.

Mr. Wilson was cross-examined at length by counsel for the defense, particularly as to the rules and regulations adopted by the Corporation Commission, and whether or not they had been published. Mr. Wilson stated there had been no publication.

Colonel Mann asked Mr. Wilson if he had not appeared as a witness before the several grand juries which had investigated and returned indictments in these bank cases. Mr. Wilson replied in the affirmative. Colonel Mann then asked him whether or not he did not at the time think that a great wrong had been committed, and that he had shown feeling and animus in the matter, but on further information had changed his mind and written to the Commonwealth's attorney.

This question brought immediate objection from the Commonwealth's attorney, and pending discussion the jury was dismissed for the day, as the court adjourned until to-morrow morning.

CONTESTING DELEGATION IS NAMED BY NEGROES

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Norfolk, Va., March 20.—Negroes of the second congressional district, about 200 strong, met here to-day and named Wiley Crockett, of Suffolk, and Theodore Nash, of Portsmouth, contesting delegates to the Republican National convention. They were instructed to vote for Theodore Roosevelt for President.

Resolutions were adopted denouncing the mismanagement of the Republican party by the officeholders and declaring it would become successful in this State until it recognized the rights of the colored people who form a large percentage of the voters.

Southern Railway Earnings.
Estimated earnings for the Southern Railway system for the second week in March were: This year, \$1,512,342; last year, \$1,181,775; increase, \$330,567.

S.S.S. CURES BLOOD POISON

When the blood becomes infected with the virus of Contagious Blood Poison, the symptoms are soon manifested. The mouth and throat ulcerate, copper-colored spots appear, a red rash breaks out, the hair begins to come out, and usually sores and ulcers show themselves on different parts of the body. At the first sign of the disease S.S.S. should be taken, for the trouble is too powerful and dangerous to trifle with. If allowed to run on the tendency is to work down and attack the bones and nerves, and sometimes it makes a complete physical wreck of the sufferer. The disease can make no such headway if S.S.S. is commenced and used according to directions. Its progress can be stopped, the poison removed, and health preserved. S.S.S. goes into the blood and removes the insidious virus, cleanses the circulation and makes a complete and permanent cure by driving out the cause. S.S.S. quickly takes effect on the blood, and gradually the symptoms disappear, the health is improved, the skin cleared of all spots, sores and blemishes, and when S.S.S. has thoroughly purified the circulation no trace of the disease is left. S.S.S., a purely vegetable remedy, cures Contagious Blood Poison because it is the greatest of all blood purifiers, tested and proven for more than forty years. Home treatment book and any medical advice free to all who write.

THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

R. L. Barnes Safe & Lock Co., Inc.

Manufacturers and Dealers

In everything in Safes, Vaults and Bank Vault Fittings. Special line of Safes, standard fireproof, from \$20 up. Old safes taken in part payment of new purchase. Sketches, catalogues and prices cheerfully furnished on the smallest to largest items.

R. T. LIPSCOMBE, Sales Manager,
2-11-13 South Eleventh Street, Richmond, Va.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WILLIAMSBURG

Good Roads Association Hears
Reports and Re-Elects
Officers.

FINE WORK ACCOMPLISHED

Fifty Miles of Sand-Clay Highway Built Under Supervision of Manville.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Williamsburg, Va., March 20.—The Virginia Peninsula Good Roads Association held its annual meeting in the auditorium of the courthouse here to-day, with a small but enthusiastic attendance. The meeting was called to order by President Frank W. Darling, of Hampton. Roll call showed that the association had a membership of 216.

Report of the treasurer, George F. Adams, who was detained at home, was read by Secretary W. E. Cottrell. It showed that the total collections had been \$8,456.50 and disbursements \$8,436.42, leaving a small balance. The secretary's report showed a slight deficit. These reports, together with vouchers, were later turned over to an auditing committee, which reported that they were correct, and complimented the officers on the accuracy and neatness of their books and accounts.

The report of General Superintendent of Construction L. B. Manville proved most interesting. It showed that he had built fifty miles of sand-clay road at a cost of \$1,152. By counties, the cost and mileage was: York, seven miles, \$1,285.33; James City, seventeen and one-half miles, at a cost of \$3,908.29; New Kent, twenty-six miles, at a cost of \$3,364.42. At the close of Mr. Manville's report he was given a rising vote of thanks by the association for the manner in which he had accomplished his work, and the president and other members, including Preston Belvin, of Richmond, paid glowing tributes to the wonderful work accomplished by the Newport News man.

Preston Belvin was invited to address the association, and he made a vigorous appeal for a winter road between Richmond and Old Point, to be a part of the coast-to-coast highway. He urged that a sand-clay road, which he said was the best summer road over which he had ever traveled, be treated to a top-dressing of stone, gravel or marl, if the latter was suitable for the purpose. He pledged Richmond for 10 per cent of the cost of making the Peninsula road a winter road, and urged the body to accomplish this, so that Old Point, instead of North Carolina, he made the Eastern terminus of the coast-to-coast highway.

Before adjourning for luncheon, which was given at the Colonial Inn by George F. Adams, of the Chamberlain, and which proved a most enjoyable affair, committees on nominations and resolutions were appointed.

The association convened at 2 o'clock, whereupon the committee on nominations recommended the reelection of the present officers, which was unanimously adopted, and Messrs. Darling and Cottrell responded to calls for speeches, pledging themselves to use their best efforts for the Peninsula roads.

The committee on resolutions made the following recommendations, all of which were unanimously adopted: 1. That the membership fee be \$1.00 or more. 2. That the executive committee be vested with the authority to incorporate the body. 3. That the executive committee set aside one day in the spring or summer as "road days," at which time all persons living adjacent to the Peninsula highway give a day's work to same. 4. That this association go on record as favoring House bill No. 262, that a copy of these resolutions be sent the Virginia delegation in Congress and that delegates be sent to Washington in behalf of said bill. 5. That this association go on record as favoring the Richmond-Fredricksburg route for the Quebec-Miami highway as against the Roanoke-Bristol route.

The association elected Frank W. Darling and M. C. Armstrong, of Hampton, and Dr. H. U. Stephenson, of Toano, as delegates to go to Washington in behalf of Federal aid for highways the first week in April, or whenever the committee meets to hear argument of the bill.

A vote of thanks was extended the three newspapers, The Richmond Times-Dispatch, Newport News Daily Press and the Virginia Gazette, which gave prizes to heads of gangs who accomplished the best work in building the sand-clay road last summer. Mrs. T. M. Ambler, the only woman present, was given a rising vote of thanks for her presence and interest in the meeting.

The afternoon session was taken up in considering plans for increasing the membership and raising money, funds with which to prosecute further work on the Peninsula. The executive committee was authorized to employ an agent to solicit members throughout this section. A resolution was adopted, calling upon York county, which has never contributed a dollar to the road, to make an appropriation for an-keep of that part of the road in her territory. The Hanover board of supervisors were also asked to build a road from Bottom's Bridge to Richmond.

The day was a very busy one and a great deal of work was accomplished in a short time. Among the others present from a distance were: Judge E. E. Montague, M. C. Armstrong, of Hampton; S. R. Curt's, of Warwick; J. A. Potts, of New Kent.

Following are the officers:
F. W. Darling, president, Hampton, Va.; E. C. Pelouze, president, Hampton, Va.; H. B. Goodridge, second vice-president, Norfolk, Va.; J. B. C. Spencer, third vice-president, Williamsburg, Va.; W. E. Cottrell, secretary, Newport News, Va.; Geo. F. Adams, treasurer, Fortress Monroe, Va.

Physicians Fail to Appear.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Roanoke, Va., March 20.—The continuation of the investigation into the slaying of Joshua Raines, charged with the murder of Miss Eva Chambers, was not taken up to-day in the Roanoke county Circuit Court, as scheduled. The postponement was due to the absence of Drs. King and Drewry, who composed the commission appointed by the court. Judge Moffett waited some time for the arrival of the physicians, but for their failure to appear he adjourned court until to-morrow morning.

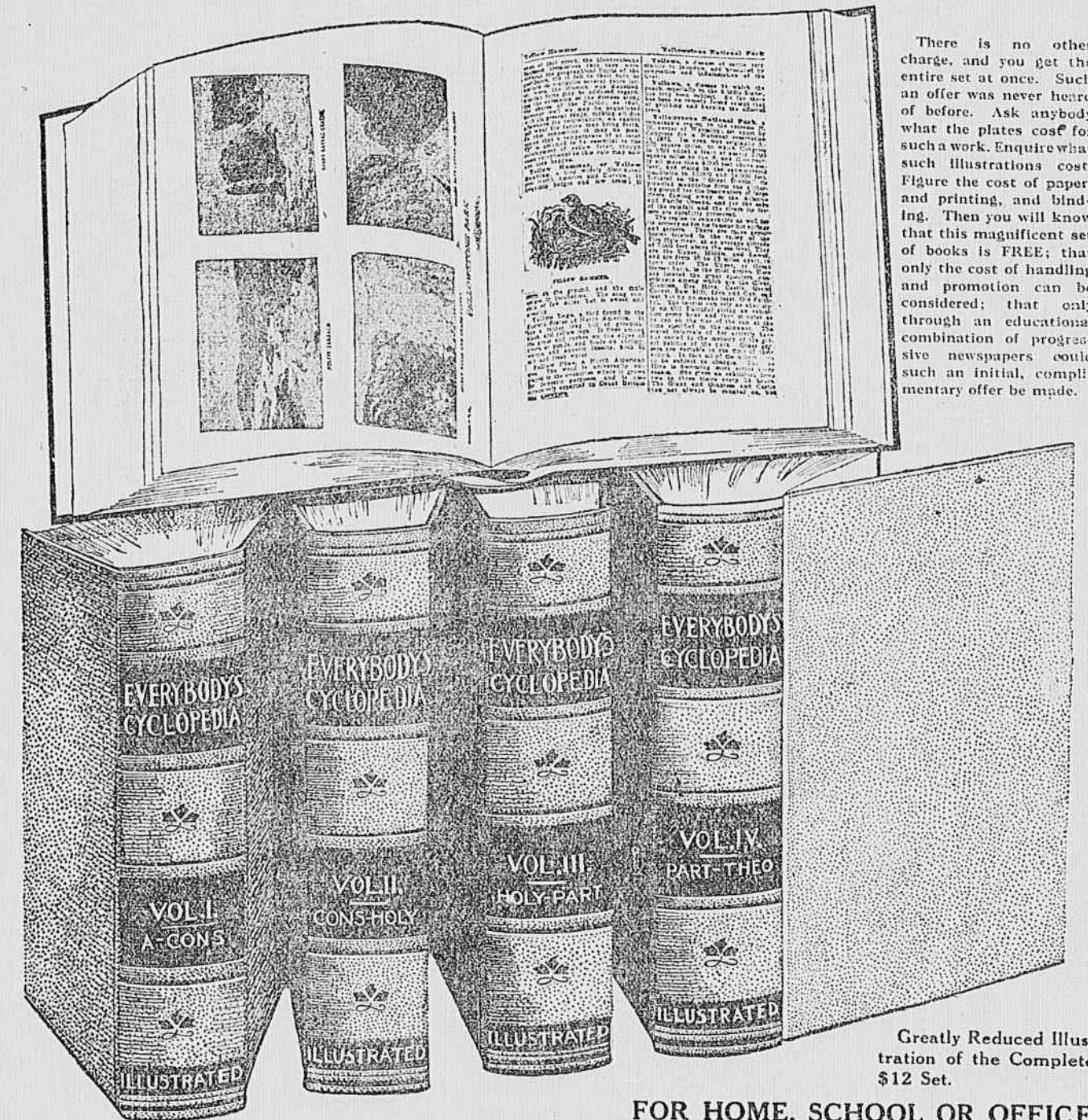
GET THIS \$12 SET OF BOOKS FREE

With Compliments of the Richmond Times-Dispatch

Which has been selected as the one paper in this city for the advance complimentary distribution of this great work. After this introductory distribution—we cannot tell yet what quantity the publishers will allow us for this purpose—the books will then be sold only on installments at \$12, by a canvass of national scope conducted by its publishers from house to house. All you now need to do is to present six educational coupons with \$1.98 as explained in the coupon on another page of this issue, and allow us to make you a present of an

Advance Complimentary Set

These few complimentary sets thus placed with its readers by this newspaper will be used by the publishers of the books merely as an introductory distribution, so that one's neighbors may have had an opportunity of familiarizing themselves with its great worth, etc., before being called upon within the next few weeks by the installment canvassers. Only one set can be allowed for any one family on this introductory complimentary distribution.



Greatly Reduced Illustration of the Complete \$12 Set.

FOR HOME, SCHOOL OR OFFICE
FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

Millions of dollars are being spent in advertising EXPENSIVE sets of educational books. The Britannica alone is expending upwards of a million dollars in general publicity in the four-page announcements you have seen run for over a year in every magazine you open. But any expensive set is large and unhandy; they are made up of ten, or twenty, or more books; they are heavy and unwieldy. The prices of such sets are so high—over \$100—that they must be sold on the installment plan.

The publishers of Everybody's Cyclopaedia took advantage of all these facts, and from a revision of ALL these various large and good cyclopedias they have compiled ALL THAT IS GOOD—all that is necessary—and have merely eliminated or condensed that which would be of interest to a specialist, or a technical student. BUT it is NOT advertised in the magazines, and you can get it ONLY through this newspaper, while this one edition lasts, previous to its being put on sale through canvassers at its regular \$12 price after this immense publicity campaign is finished.

Beautiful Color Plates
Full Page and Double Page Monotone Engravings
Educational Charts

CLIP COUPONS And Secure This Wonderful Present MAIL ORDERS Filled Under the Same Offer If You Pay Express Charges.

News of Petersburg

Times-Dispatch Bureau,
5 Hollingsworth Street,
Petersburg, Va., March 20.

In the Circuit Court of Dinwiddie county, Judge Southall presiding, the cases of Sandy and Harvey Hicks, colored, brothers, aged fourteen and eleven years, charged with setting fire to the barn of William Hitchcock, came up for their second trial yesterday. As in their first trial, the jury failed to agree, and after consultation with the court, the Commonwealth's attorney entered a nolle prosequi, and the two boys were discharged.

Twenty-fifth Anniversary.
Beginning Wednesday, March 27, the Woman's Missionary Union of East

Hanover Presbytery will meet in annual session at Tabith Street Church, this city. At this meeting the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the union will be celebrated with appropriate exercises. Rev. Charles H. Pratt, of North Carolina, will be the speaker for Wednesday night. On Thursday afternoon Rev. Theron H. Rice, of the Union Theological Seminary, will make an address on "The Scriptural View of Woman's Relations to Church Work." Among the other speakers will be T. Dwight Sloan, of New York, secretary of the Foreign Mission Society, and Rev. Dr. Cecil, of Richmond. The attendance will be large, as about seventy delegates are expected to attend the union.

Temporary Bridge to Be Built.
The Street Committee, at a special meeting held last night, decided to proceed at once on the construction

of a temporary bridge over the Appomattox River to connect this city with the business interest of the city and to be able to give the village of Pocahontas. This meeting was called at the request of twenty-one members of the Council, who realized the importance of quick action in regard to

HERCULES PLASTER BOARD

IN PLACE OF LATHS AND PLASTER

Saves money in material, time and labor. Made in sheets 24x36 inches. Easily nailed to the studs, and is at once ready for paint, paper, burlap or a plaster finish.

FIRE PROOF

Will not shrink, warp or crack. Shows no lath stains. Proof against SOUND, VERMIN, HEAT and COLD. Endorsed and approved by building departments and fire underwriters throughout the country. Write for sample and prices.

THE HERCULES PLASTER BOARD CO., Hampton, Va.